

RESOLUTION No. 2008-75-762

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, ADOPTING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY, A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT A; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency funded a national initiative to help communities develop local mitigation strategies that identify projects to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, and to identify sources of funds to address those potential problems, and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida Department of Community Affairs entered into a contract with Miami-Dade County to provide the funding for the County and municipalities to jointly develop a Local Mitigation Strategy to become a component of the Statewide Mitigation Strategy, and

WHEREAS, the County entered into Agreements with local municipalities, including the City of Miami Gardens, to establish a unified process for developing the Local Mitigation Strategy and convey funds for participation in the plan development, and

WHEREAS, the Local Mitigation Strategy meets the State contract requirements and was accomplished with the participation of local governments, including the City of Miami Gardens, the School Board of Miami-Dade County and a broad range of private not-for-profit agencies, businesses and universities coordinated by the Department of Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, and

WHEREAS, the Local Mitigation Strategy is comprised of a document that describes all manners of hazards, including the flood hazard, and because the Local

Mitigation Strategy adequately describes this hazard and actions to be taken to construct projects that will mitigate the flood hazard, it is also known as a Floodplain Management Plan for the purposes of the Community Rating System, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Miami Gardens desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying Memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,


NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS: The foregoing Whereas paragraphs are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true, and the same are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution.


Section 2. ADOPTION: The City Council of the City of Miami Gardens adopts the Local Mitigation Strategy outlined on Exhibit A attached hereto.

Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its final passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON APRIL 23, 2008.

  
SHIRLEY GIBSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
RONETTA TAYLOR, CMC, CITY CLERK

PREPARED BY: SONJA KNIGHTON DICKENS, ESQ.  
City Attorney

SPONSORED BY: DANNY CREW, CITY MANAGER

MOVED BY: Vice Mayor Watson  
SECONDED BY: Councilman Gilbert

**VOTE: 6-0**

Mayor Shirley Gibson	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)
Vice Mayor Barbara Watson	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)
Councilman Melvin L. Bratton	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)
Councilman Oliver G. Gilbert III	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)
Councilman Aaron Campbell	<u>    </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No) Out of country
Councilwoman Sharon Pritchett	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)
Councilman André Williams	<u>  x  </u> (Yes)	<u>    </u> (No)

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# City of Miami Gardens

1515 NW 167<sup>th</sup> Street  
Building 5, Suite 200  
Miami Gardens, Florida 33169



Mayor Shirley Gibson  
Vice Mayor Barbara Watson  
Councilman Melvin L. Bratton  
Councilman Aaron Campbell Jr.  
Councilwoman Sharon Pritchett  
Councilman Oliver Gilbert III  
Councilman André Williams

## Agenda Cover Page

Date: April 23, 2008

Fiscal Impact: No ☒ Yes

(If yes, explain in Staff Summary)

Funding Source:

Contract/P.O. Requirement: Yes ☐ No ☒

Sponsor Name/Department: City Manager

Public hearing ☐

Ordinance ☐

1st Reading ☐

Advertising requirement:

Quasi-Judicial ☐

Resolution ☒

2nd Reading ☐

Yes ☐ No ☒

### Title

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, ADOPTING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY, A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT A; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

### Staff Summary

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funded a national initiative to help communities develop local mitigation strategies that identify projects to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, and to identify sources of funds to address those potential problems.

In the spring of 1998, the state of Florida (Florida Department of Community Affairs) contracted with and provided funding to each of the counties within the state to develop a Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). Miami-Dade County is a highly diverse community yet because of a hurricane named Andrew we all have a profound appreciation for hazard mitigation and a willingness to make the "Strategy" work. The LMS is comprised of a document that describes all manners of hazards, including the flood hazard, and because the Local Mitigation Strategy adequately describes this hazard and actions to be taken to construct projects that will mitigate the flood hazard, it is also known as a Floodplain Management Plan for the purposes of the Community Rating System (CRS) in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Consequently, all of the municipalities in Miami-Dade County to include Miami Gardens have participated in the LMS, which are referred to as the LMS Working Group.

On March 24, 2004, the City passed a resolution (2004-47-98) for Mr. James Clausell to become the City's Liaison for the LMS Group Meeting. In 2005, the Public Works Director started to attend the LMS meetings to address stormwater mitigation projects. Many of these stormwater projects that have been published in the LMS Book assist in receiving grants as planned projects.

By adopting the LMS, City of Miami Gardens will establish a unified process for developing the Local Mitigation Strategy so that funds will be conveyed to the City for participation in the plan development.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the City Council adopt the Local Mitigation Strategy.

The  
**Local Mitigation  
Strategy**

\*\*\*\*\*

for  
**Miami-Dade County**  
and its  
**Municipalities, Departments and Private Sector Partners**

**LMS**  
**Miami-Dade**

**December 31, 2007**

# **The Local Mitigation Strategy**

of

## **Miami-Dade County and its Municipalities and Partners**

### **Introduction**

Miami-Dade County is made up of thirty-five municipalities plus a large unincorporated area referred to as the "Unincorporated Municipal Services Area" (UMSA). While referred to as cities throughout this document, officially, some are cities, others are towns and still others are villages. These municipalities consist of both coastal and inland communities; urban, suburban and rural communities; communities that are heavily industrialized, some with an agricultural base and those that are almost completely residential. The county has two of the five largest cities in the state of Florida (Miami and Hialeah) and one city, Islandia, so small it has no infrastructure whatsoever.

In the spring of 1998, the state of Florida contracted with and provided funding to each of the counties within the state to develop a Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). Miami-Dade County is a highly diverse community yet because of a hurricane named Andrew we all have a profound appreciation for hazard mitigation and a willingness to make the "Strategy" work. Consequently, all of the municipalities in Miami-Dade County have participated in the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) at one time or another and have formed, with many other organizations, what we refer to as the LMS Working Group.

### **The LMS Working Group**

During the development of the LMS each municipality designated a representative to the Working Group. Additionally, each of the major departments within the county government assigned a representative to the Working Group to address the issues of the unincorporated portions of the county and the county owned and operated facilities that lie within the boundaries of the municipalities. In order to streamline planning, the Working Group was divided into seven subgroups, which, for convenience sake, used the groupings that were already in place within the county as "divisional emergency operations centers" (DEOC) and are loosely based upon geographical proximity. The subgroups are as follows (with new cities added where appropriate):

- Group 1: Aventura, Bal Harbour, Golden Beach, Miami Gardens, North Miami Beach and Sunny Isles Beach.
- Group 2: Bay Harbor Islands, Biscayne Park, Indian Creek Village, North Miami and Surfside.
- Group 3: Doral, Hialeah, Hialeah Gardens, Medley, Miami Lakes, Miami Springs, Opa-locka and Virginia Gardens.
- Group 4: El Portal, Key Biscayne, Miami, Miami Beach, Miami Shores and North Bay Village.

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- Group 5: Coral Gables, Palmetto Bay, Pinecrest, South Miami, Sweetwater, and West Miami.
- Group 6: Cutler Bay, Florida City, Homestead, Islandia and the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida.
- Group 7: Miami-Dade County departments, divisions and offices – offices and divisions that operate fairly independently of their parent department act on their own in the LMS Working Group.

Other active participants in the Working Group include state and federal agencies, colleges, universities and schools (including the Miami-Dade County Public Schools), hospitals, not-for-profit organizations and private sector companies.

The makeup of the Working Group is not limited to the any particular organization or jurisdiction. Numerous others have expressed the desire to participate in the Local Mitigation Strategy and are welcome to do so. It has been asked why federal and state agencies and private sector companies should participate in the LMS. Well, the answer is easy: They live here and work here, too; our disasters are their disasters.

Each organization, (municipality, county department or other participating organization) appoints an official representative to the Working Group who will vote on behalf of the organization and will be the “voice” of the organization. Each organization is encouraged to solicit participation and commentary from its citizens, employees and members.

It must be noted, however, that to be considered a participant of the Local Mitigation Strategy and receive the benefits thereof, a municipality, county department or any other organization must attend at least two of the four quarterly meetings held each year. The Working Group endorsed this policy unanimously on September 20, 2001. However, any organization may substitute regular participation and attendance on an active LMS committee or subcommittee in lieu of attendance at the quarterly meetings.

Although the state of Florida’s LMS development contract with Miami-Dade County and its municipalities officially terminated in August of 1999 there was a presumption in both the contract and in the publication *The Local Mitigation Strategy: A Guidebook for Florida Cities and Counties* that the Working Group or other successor entity would continue in some form far beyond that date. The requirement for the development of evaluation criteria and review and revision policies implies continuity, as does a long-term conflict resolution policy utilizing the Working Group as part of the process. In any event, the continuation of the Working Group has been addressed as part of the Local Mitigation Strategy even though not required by the contract.

### **LMS Committees**

In order to streamline the Working Group’s activities, various committees may be formed, each addressing an area of concern. Initially, committees were formed to deal with flooding, evacuations, funding, community education, external policy, agriculture and wildfires. Other committees may be formed as needed. To act as a “board-of-directors” and to guide



policy between meetings of the Working Group, a Steering Committee has been formed with members representing the organizations found within the Working Group (i.e. municipal, county, educational, not-for-profit and private sectors). The Steering Committee will also act as a review committee for the establishment of this Local Mitigation Strategy and the prioritization of the projects therein. Membership on any committee shall be voluntary and subject to the review and approval of the Working Group. A committee member who fails to attend a reasonable number of committee meetings may be dropped from participation in the committee by a majority vote of the other members of that committee. As stated above, serving on a committee may act in lieu of attendance at the quarterly LMS meetings.

### **Program Continuity and Meetings**

In September 1999, The Miami-Dade County Local Mitigation Working Group voted to continue the LMS program with or without state funding. The Steering Committee will meet as needed and the full Working Group will meet once each calendar quarter. Working Group meetings will be noticed by e-mail to the official representative of each jurisdiction and to other interested parties. The representatives are encouraged to post meeting notifications prominently, on community bulletin boards or in some other way, to notify the public or other interested parties at least thirty days prior to each meeting. Meeting times, dates and locations will also be posted on the LMS website: [www.miamidade.gov/oem/lms.asp](http://www.miamidade.gov/oem/lms.asp).

In March 2000, the Working Group determined that the LMS master document needed to be updated two to three times each year and the updates, including the deletion of completed or abandoned projects, the addition of new projects and amendments to existing projects, will be published and forwarded to the Florida Division of Emergency Management. In December 2000 it was finally agreed to by the Working Group that the LMS master document would be updated and published on June 30<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

The LMS Coordinator working through the Miami-Dade Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and with the assistance of the LMS Steering Committee, will undertake to organize the updates. All additions, deletions and amendments must be received at OEM at least thirty days prior to each agreed upon publication date or risk not being included in the final publication for that time period.

At all times, the latest published version of the Local Mitigation Strategy will be posted on the Miami-Dade County Internet website – [www.miamidade.gov/oem/lms.asp](http://www.miamidade.gov/oem/lms.asp) – for public scrutiny and commentary. An email address, [mdlms@miamidade.gov](mailto:mdlms@miamidade.gov), has been established for such commentary, which is strongly encouraged; let us hear from you.

On June 6, 2000 the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners passed Resolution R-572-00 formally adopting the Local Mitigation Strategy as official county policy thus further promoting program continuity. Because Miami-Dade County has a metropolitan form of government, this means that each of the municipalities within the county has also automatically adopted the LMS unless they choose not to and to date, none have opted out.

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On September 13, 2000 Miami-Dade County, along with its municipalities and other organizations was designated by FEMA and the Florida Department of Community Affairs to be a "Project Impact Community." At the December 6, 2000 meeting of the LMS Working Group, it was agreed that the LMS Working Group would become the Project Impact Working Group and that the Local Mitigation Strategy would continue under the auspices of Project Impact. Henceforth, Project Impact and the Local Mitigation Strategy became synonymous. Additionally, the LMS Steering Committee will continue its functions under Project Impact. On May 30, 2001, a formal "signing ceremony" took place at Vizcaya Museum and Gardens when many members of the Working Group signed a proclamation, each becoming a "Project Impact Partner." Although FEMA no longer endorses Project Impact, it has indicated that it will not abandon the Project Impact communities as long as their grants are still in effect. Conversations within the Working Group indicate that Project Impact will continue in Miami-Dade County regardless.

On June 7, 2005, the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners passed Resolution R-710-05, which states that grant applications filed under the auspices of the Miami-Dade Local Mitigation Strategy no longer have to go to the Commission for approval, but instead authorizes the county manager to *"Apply for, receive, expend and amend applications for grant funds for projects listed in the Miami-Dade County Local Mitigation Strategy."*

As of this publication date of December 31, 2008, the LMS Working Group is still going strong and there are over 300 completed mitigation projects at a value exceeding 250 million dollars. Additionally, there are nearly \$17 million in Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program projects that have been recently awarded and millions more in Hazard Mitigation Grants Program (HMGP) still pending from the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons. The HMGP funding that has become available as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma in 2005 will lead to significant mitigation advances in the near future.

## **Part I – The Strategy**

### **Guiding Principles**

#### **Federal, State and Regional Governmental Entities**

The federal, state and local entities that perform hazard mitigation functions are almost too numerous to name. However, some of the more prominent ones are: the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and many more.

The government entities which are located in and affect Miami-Dade County and its municipalities that perform hazard mitigation functions are varied and represent all levels of government: federal, state, county and local.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has funded hundreds of hazard mitigation projects following Hurricane Andrew and to a lesser extent following the 1993 March windstorm or "Storm of the Century," the February, 1998 "Groundhog Day" storms and more projects have been implemented following Hurricane Irene in 1999 and the October 3, 2000 floods (pre-Tropical Storm Leslie), the tornados of March 27, 2003, the hurricanes of 2004 (Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne) and most recently: Katrina, Rita and Wilma. FEMA also delves deeply into mitigation as administrator of the National Flood Insurance Program.

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for restoration and renourishment of most of the county's beaches, maintenance of the Intercoastal Waterway, maintenance of Government Cut and the Miami Harbor entrance, and some shared responsibility with the South Florida Water Management District for the canal and levee systems throughout the county. Mitigation functions in these areas by the Corps are multiple and varied.

The South Florida Water Management District maintains canal, pumping, and drainage systems throughout the county and controls when control structures are opened and closed thus flood control mitigation opportunities exist to benefit all of South Florida. These structures, located throughout the county, also mitigate against saltwater intrusion into our drinking water supply.

The United States National Park Service controls Everglades National Park that covers one third of the land area of Miami-Dade County and Biscayne National Park that covers over half of Biscayne Bay. One of our municipalities, the City of Islandia, lies entirely within the boundaries of Biscayne National Park.

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The Florida Department of Environmental Protection oversees considerable flood plain management and also controls the state park system, two of which, Oleta River and Bill Baggs State Recreation Areas, lie within Miami-Dade County; state parks that are vulnerable to hurricanes and storm surge because of their locations, one on Biscayne Bay and the Intercoastal Waterway and the other on Key Biscayne, a barrier island.

The United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency provides assistance to the farming community similar to that which FEMA provides to counties and municipalities. Also, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service) helps with mitigation such as canal bank restoration and stabilization.

The United States Forestry Service and the Florida Division of Forestry both keep fire trails and fire breaks open, conduct controlled or prescribed burns and assist with debris clearance, all of which mitigate and facilitate fire control by keeping fuel levels low.

The Florida Department of Transportation must be a major participant in any mitigation endeavors undertaken throughout the county. They, along with the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority, maintain and control our major thoroughfares including the expressway system. They also control, along with Miami-Dade County Public Works, Florida East Coast and CSX railroads and the Town of Bay Harbor Islands, the twenty-three movable bridges that cross the Miami River and the Intercoastal Waterway.

### **Municipal Agencies and Their Mitigation Functions**

The municipalities of Miami-Dade County each have within their makeup certain departments and agencies which affect and promote mitigation. While these agencies may have slightly different names from city to city, the role they perform in the mitigation function remains the same (e.g. public works or public services or community services, etc).

**Police and fire rescue departments:** Each of the municipalities except Doral, Islandia, Miami Gardens, Miami Lakes and Palmetto Bay maintains its own Police Department while the cities of Coral Gables, Hialeah, Key Biscayne, Miami and Miami Beach also maintain their own fire departments with the balance of the cities using Miami-Dade Fire Rescue for this service. While these departments, except for their own buildings, do not truly do mitigation as it pertains to this strategy, they can be an extremely helpful as sources of information because they are the first responders to most of our hazard events and their insights into preventive measures can be invaluable. The police and fire departments also conduct educational seminars to residents to spread awareness on emergency preparedness.

**The building department (or building & zoning):** The functions of this department relate extensively to a wide range of mitigation projects and on-going mitigation activities. In most of our cities, the Building Official is responsible for

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interpreting and enforcing all laws, codes, ordinances, regulations and municipal policies related to the construction, improvement, expansion, repair or rehabilitation of buildings within the city. This department ensures that all new construction complies with the Florida Building Code which in itself is a major contribution to hazard mitigation. The department usually is responsible for the prevention of development in Special Hazard Areas; preservation of open space; general control of land use intensities; and coordination between the capacity of public infrastructure in relation to proposals of private development. This department also ensures all proposed development in the city conforms to the city's comprehensive plan as it relates to urban design of public areas and buildings, infrastructure planning and maintenance of flood data and other statistical information.

**Planning and Development Department:** Often is a part of the building department and even, at times, a part of public works. However, a number of our municipalities maintain planning and development as a separate entity which interacts within the mitigation strategy in many ways and must be part of the overall strategy especially in the area of urban land use..

**Public Works Department:** In most of our cities this department is responsible for construction and maintenance of roads, bridges and waterways and storm water management including drainage system development, inspection and maintenance, all functions that relate in various ways to hazard mitigation. Public works activities are a major component of any mitigation strategy.

## **Mitigation Goals and Objectives**

In a community as large and diverse as metropolitan Miami-Dade County no single list is going to include every conceivable mitigation goal or objective. However, we can start with the philosophies necessary to bring the community together as a single mitigating entity.

Mitigation goals and objectives must be consistent with the goals and objectives of the county and the individual municipalities' master plans, their codes and ordinances, as well as other endeavors that reflect the aspirations for the welfare, safety and quality of life of their citizens.

### **Goals**

1. The primary mitigation goal is to reduce vulnerability to natural, technological and societal hazards from all sources but especially, in South Florida, from hurricanes, tornadoes, major rainfall and other severe weather events.
2. Related to the above is the goal to mitigate the extent and severity of the problems created by these hazards and to, collaterally, secure the necessary commitments and, to the maximum extent feasible, the necessary resources to implement mitigation activities in annual action plans to achieve these goals.

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3. To prevent any additions to the list of "Repetitive Loss Properties" published annually by the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and to reduce the number of repetitive loss properties to a point where the municipalities and the county can qualify as a category A or B Community (i.e. a community containing no more than nine repetitive loss properties). A repetitive loss property is a single property that has two or more NFIP flood insurance claims of \$1,000 or more.
4. To assure incremental improvements in municipalities' standing and classification in the Community Rating System (CRS), with the related consequences of making flood insurance under the NFIP more affordable and reachable, while improving cities' effectiveness in coping with flood hazards, problems and emergencies. It is also a goal of the Local Mitigation Strategy to ensure that all the municipalities in Miami-Dade County are or will become members of the CRS program.
5. Increase the continual dissemination of information on a repetitive basis with respect to the existence of flood hazards and the availability of measures to mitigate the problems presented by such hazards.
6. Continually improve and maintain cutting-edge, state-of-the-art, effectiveness of the cities' emergency preparedness and disaster response capacity.
7. To increase the level of coordination of mitigation management concerns, plans and activities at the municipal, county, state and federal levels of government.
8. To secure an enforceable commitment for the implementation of the local hazard mitigation strategy.

**Objectives**

1. To follow the mitigation recommendations espoused in the FEMA publication *Building Performance: Hurricane Andrew in Florida*, a document that dramatically sets forth the many deficiencies brought to light by Hurricane Andrew.
2. Protection of expressways, major highways and other thoroughfares and, more importantly, our bridges and causeways to provide for continuous, free flowing traffic and circulation as needed for the effective and unencumbered provision of emergency services and evacuation operations.
3. Protection of "critical facilities" vital to the safe and continuous operation of countywide infrastructure including hospitals and health facilities; water and sewer facilities; major airports; the seaport; electrical, natural gas and telephone systems; bus and rail lines; schools and waterways.

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4. Protection of critical facilities vital to disaster response, including the structures occupied by the Fire and Police Departments and all other emergency-related personnel, equipment and facilities involved with the transportation, communication, and energy requirements for an effective response to a major rainstorm, hurricane, tornado, terrorist act or other similar disaster event.
5. Addition of building envelope protection – including window and door protection – and inclusion of a continuous load path from roof to foundation on all structures within the county.
6. Reduction or mitigation of low points in the county's or cities' topography; specifically to encourage the flow of storm water away from structures and toward streets where storm drainage systems are concentrated and to eliminate or modify surfaces that would otherwise drain toward these low points.
7. Reduction and mitigation of rainstorm hazards and problems.
8. Reduction and mitigation of storm surge hazards and effects by encouraging greater setbacks from shorelines for new developments of waterfront properties, encouraging retrofitting and elevation of structures with high priority consideration for those built on waterfront properties, seeking opportunities to acquire, exchange or otherwise secure limited control of waterfront real estate.
9. Goals related to existing soil conditions.
10. Reduction and mitigation of problems from structures built below base flood elevation (BFE). These "old law" buildings were constructed under the older Dade County Building Code, which only required the finished floor elevation of a structure to be 13" above the crown of the road. The goal is to reduce the number of and eventually eliminate structures built with a finished floor elevation below the BFE.
11. Collection of flood data information and analysis and completion of a countywide database which incorporates a wider range of property data, topographical data, storm drainage data, rainfalls data, building permit data, data on insurance, history of flooding, etc.
9. Enhancement of the land component of real estate values throughout the county, thereby creating a market driven, rather than regulatory environment for the "substantial improvement" (i.e. more than 50% of value) of structures with current finished floor elevations below BFE.
10. Enhance public information and involvement and increase the public awareness of hazards and problems and educate the public through a widespread program of general information, media coverage and participatory involvement.

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11. Initiate organizational, managerial and administrative goals to make mitigation a mainstream function of government affairs; spread the responsibilities throughout many departments and agencies to ensure continuity and a full integration of mitigation management functions in the operations of government.

## **Policies, Ordinances and Programs Affecting Mitigation**

Each municipality is similar in that it is located in Miami-Dade County, Florida. The same federal, state and county laws govern each. Each individual municipality is unique and has its own municipal ordinances, policies, procedures, and programs that differ according to specific needs and priorities. The basic federal, state and county documents affecting hazard mitigation listed are generally applicable throughout the municipalities. Other documents vary; therefore data sources for each have been listed according to the respective municipal government. Adherence to these policies, ordinances and programs is an integral part of the Miami-Dade LMS.